

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OPR-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CCO-00 SY-10 USSS-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 OC-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-20 AF-10 IO-15 ABF-01 A-01

/142 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:LSEMAKIS

APPROVED BY NEA:JJSISCO

NEA/ARN:DAKORN

EUR/WE:CKJOHNSON (SUBS)

NEA/EX:TWDAVIS

OPR/WLG:JPMCDONNELL

NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S-O:PPSARROS

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O 122151Z OCT 73 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE NIACT

USINT CAIRO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 203082

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AMER

SUBJ: ITALIAN ASSISTANCE RE STRANDED TOURISTS IN EGYPT

REF: CAIRO 3066 (NOTAL)

1. AS POSTS AWARE, WE ARE EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF CHARTER-
ING GREEK VESSEL FOR USE IN MOVING STRANDED AMERICAN
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TOURISTS OUT OF EGYPT. EMBASSY ATHENS REPORTS THAT SS ADONI

AVAILABLE ON 24 HOUR NOTICE. WE ESTIMATE ADONIS CAN REACH ALEXANDRIA 30 TO 36 HOURS AFTER SAILING. GREEK GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, WILL NOT PERMIT GREEK VESSEL TO SAIL WITHOUT APPROPRIATE ASSURANCES FROM BELLIGERANTS THAT VESSEL WILL NOT BE SUBJECTED TO HOSTILE ACTIONS.

2. THUS FAR, EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN US SUCH ASSURANCES IN PRINCIPLE (REFTEL). WE ARE STILL AWAITING REPLY TO OUR APPROACH TO ISRAELIS IN TEL AVIV. MEANWHILE, REQUEST YOU CONTACT MFA SOONEST AND SEEK ITALIAN ASSISTANCE IN PASSING US REQUEST FOR SYRIAN ASSURANCES ON SAFETY OF VESSEL THROUGH ITALIAN EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS.

3. FOR USINT CAIRO. SINCE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN DAMASCUS MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY CONTACTING APPROPRIATE SYRIAN AUTHORITIES, SUGGEST YOU SEEK EGYPTIAN ASSISTANCE IN CONVEYING OUR

REQUEST TO SYRIANS. POST MIGHT ALSO ASK SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO APPROACH SYRIAN DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUE IN CAIRO.

4. FOR BEIRUT: PLEASE CALL CARDILLI TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES MENTIONED PARA 2 ABOVE. KISSINGER

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